# Shouldn't I see my specialist if I have a pre-existing medical condition?

Because you are currently seeing a specialist for a medical condition, you understand the importance of seeking

treatment for a workplace injury from a specialist, the foundation of this program.



If you have a preexisting medical condition, you would tell the occupational medical specialist about your condition and concerns. He or she will treat you accordingly and will refer you to your specialist should that be necessary.

This program would be similar to how you would be treated in case you were involved in an accident and required emergency treatment. You would be taken to the emergency room where you would be treated and then, if necessary, the ER doctor would consult with your specialist.

Consultation between specialties is routinely done. Remember the goal of all medical care is to provide you with the best treatment possible.

## Can I be referred to another Provider?

You can be referred to another provider or specialist if that is required to provide you with the best possible care.

The State's DMPs were chosen for the providers' knowledge in the treatment of workplace injuries and his or her concern for your well being.

The DMP is an independent care provider who does not work for the State or Workforce Safety and Insurance.

We all want the best medical care possible and by selecting a specialist in workplace medicine, all state employees have the opportunity to receive quality care.

#### State of North Dakota

Risk Management Workers Compensation Program

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### Benefits of an effective Workers Compensation

Designated Medical Provider

**Program** 





State of North Dakota Risk Management Workers Compensation Program

**OMB Risk Management Division** 

#### North Dakota RMWCP Designated Medical Provider Program

Your employer, the state of North Dakota, is concerned about protecting your safety and health while you are on the job. However, despite health and safety efforts.

the best health and safety efforts, accidents will occur.

If you should be injured on the job, an effective Designated Medical Provider (DMP) team approach will provide you the highest quality of care.

The State's DMP teams coordinate care and communications between you, your employer, the medical provider, and Workforce Safety and Insurance.

What is a Designated Medical Provider (DMP)?

A DMP is a team of physicians, nurse practitioners, physician



assistants, therapists, and nurse case managers who are specialists in the field of occupational medicine.

The team is specially trained to evaluate work place injuries and develop appropriate treatment plans that include using the job as part of the recovery process. The team members' training in occupational medicine and the members' knowledge of the workers compensation system enhances the implementation of reasonable accommodations for the injured worker and positively impacts the healing process. In other words, they will help you recover more quickly and completely.

#### What is Occupational Medicine?

Occupational medicine is the specialty devoted to the prevention and management of occupational and environ-

mental injury, illness and disability, and the promotion of the health and productivity of workers, their families, and communities.



Why would I want treatment from the State's DMP in place of treatment from my own physician?

The State has carefully selected DMPs who have systems in place to 1) treat

workplace injuries, 2) are familiar with workers compensation, and 3) have doctors who are trained in occupational medicine.

The DMPs selected by the State have established networks of clinics that allow the



clinic physicians to be in touch with an off site occupational medicine physician and with the nurse case managers. Their experience in treating work place injuries and their ability to provide quality care following the injury are the reason they have been chosen to fill this role.

The selected DMPs have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with your workplace, the type of work you do, and are available to communicate with you and the RMWCP program on a regular basis.

Remember, this program only affects the treatment you receive as the result of a work-place injury. You would continue to see your private physician for any other type of medical treatment.